

Message Text

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R 262023Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS STATE 188857

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGAO, ELTN, CA

SUBJECT: GAO REVIEW: VISIT BY GAO TEAM TO DISCUSS INTER-
NATIONAL RAIL TECHNOLOGY, AUGUST 21-25.

1. THE GAO HAS INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT THAT IT IS REVIEW-
ING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT, A \$1.9 BILLION PROGRAM TO IMPROVE COMPONENTS OF
THE RAILROAD TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM BETWEEN BOSTON AND
WASHINGTON, D.C. AS PART OF ITS ASSESSMENT OF THE FEASI-
BILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL RAIL TECHNOLOGY PROPOSED FOR
USE ON THE NORTHEAST CORRIDOR, A GAO TEAM COMPOSED OF MS.
JOYCE NG AND MR. CHARLES RICHELIN PLAN TO VISIT CANADA AUGUST
21 - 25, SUBJECT TO EMBASSY'S CONCURRENCE, FOR DISCUSSIONS
WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AND RAILROAD OFFICIALS, AND
REPRESENTATIVES OF RAILROAD CAR MANUFACTURERS.

2. THE GAO HAS ALREADY CONTACTED THE INDIVIDUALS AND FIRMS
SHOWN ON THE FOLLOWING ITINERARY AND THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE
FOR MEETINGS ON THE DATES SHOWN. THE EXACT TIME FOR EACH
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APPOINTMENT WILL BE CONFIRMED LATER:

AUGUST 21 - ARRIVING MONTREAL IN THE EVENING
22 - 23 - MEET WITH CONSULATE GENERAL STAFF BEFORE
PROCEEDING ON APPOINTMENT SCHEDULE;
- MEETINGS WITH FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS

- W. E. MCLEAN AND FRED BLADER, MLW INDUSTRIES, MONTREAL;
- HOWARD VIKSON, DOMINION FOUNDRIES AND STEEL, LTD.;
- OFFICIALS OF CANADIAN NATIONAL RAIL, MONTREAL;
- LEAVE MONTREAL BY RAIL AND ARRIVE OTTAWA EVENING OF AUG. 23RD.

AUGUST 24 - MEETING WITH EMBASSY. (GAO TEAM AVAILABLE TO MEET WITH AMBASSADOR BEFORE APPOINTMENTS AND FOR EXIT BRIEFING).

- DISCUSSIONS WITH CANADIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS;
- FRANK SPINK AND BARRY WATSON, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, TRADE, AND COMMERCE, TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRIES BRANCH, RAILWAY DIVISION, OTTAWA.

AUGUST 25 - DEPART FOR WASHINGTON.

3. THE GAO IS AWARE THAT CONTACTS WITH OFFICIALS ARE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE AMBASSADOR AND THAT EMBOFF IS TO ACCOMPANY, IF FEASIBLE.

4. THE DEPARTMENT CERTIFIES THAT MS. NG HAS A CURRENT SECRET SECURITY CLEARANCE AND THAT MR. RICHE HAS A TOP SECRET CLEARANCE.

5. PLEASE MAKE FOLLOWING HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

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MONTREAL, NIGHTS OF AUGUST 21 AND 22, TWO SINGLES WITH BATH

OTTAWA, NIGHTS OF AUGUST 23 AND 24, TWO SINGLES WITH BATH.

6. IT IS THE DEPARTMENT'S POLICY TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO THE GAO AND TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE WITHIN THE GUIDELINES OF 4 FAM 930-934. ANY QUESTIONS OR PROBLEMS THAT SHOULD ARISE DURING THE COURSE OF THE VISIT, PARTICULARLY REGARDING GAO ACCESS TO AND/OR RETENTION OF DEPARTMENT FILES OR DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE REFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT. CHRISTOPHER

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